



AN ACT PROVIDING THAT ONE MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF PARDONS AND PAROLE MUST BE AN ENROLLED MEMBER OF A STATE-RECOGNIZED OR FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED INDIAN TRIBE LOCATED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA; AMENDING SECTION 2-15-2302, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 2-15-2302, MCA, is amended to read:

**"2-15-2302. Board of pardons and parole -- composition -- allocation -- quasi-judicial.** (1) There is a board of pardons and parole.

(2) The board consists of three members and four auxiliary members, each of whom must have knowledge of American Indian culture and problems gained through training as required by rules adopted by the board. One member must be an enrolled member of a state-recognized or federally recognized Indian tribe located within the boundaries of the state of Montana. The tribal member may not be required to hear and act on all American Indian applications before the board. Members of the board, including the auxiliary members, must possess academic training that has qualified them for professional practice in a field such as criminology, education, psychiatry, psychology, law, social work, sociology, or guidance and counseling. Related work experience in the areas listed may be substituted for these educational requirements.

(3) An auxiliary member shall attend any meeting that a regular board member is unable to attend, and at that time, the auxiliary member has all the rights and responsibilities of a regular board member.

(4) Board members and auxiliary members shall serve staggered 4-year terms. The governor shall appoint one member and two auxiliary members in January of the first year of the governor's term, one member and one auxiliary member in January of the second year of the governor's term, and one member and one auxiliary member in January of the third year of the governor's term.

(5) ~~The~~ The terms of board members and auxiliary members run with the position, and if a vacancy occurs, the governor shall appoint a person to fill the unexpired portion of the term.

(6) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121. However, the board may hire its own personnel, and 2-15-121(2)(d) does not apply.

(7) The board, including the auxiliary members, is designated as a quasi-judicial board for purposes of 2-15-124, except board members must be compensated as provided by legislative appropriation and the terms of board members must be staggered as provided in subsection (4).

(8) The provisions of 2-15-124(2) do not apply to the board."

**Section 2. Notification to tribal governments.** The secretary of state shall send a copy of [this act] to each tribal government located on the seven Montana reservations and to the Little Shell Chippewa tribe.

**Section 3. Saving clause.** [This act] does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before [the effective date of this act].

**Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

- END -

I hereby certify that the within bill,  
HB 0591, originated in the House.

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Chief Clerk of the House

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Speaker of the House

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

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President of the Senate

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

HOUSE BILL NO. 591  
INTRODUCED BY C. PEASE-LOPEZ

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